

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01

AID-05 SY-04 ACDA-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

/064 W

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O P 011145Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9157

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 2010

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, CB

SUBJECT: THIRTY-SECOND DAY OF THE KC DRY SEASON OFFENSIVE

REF: PHNOM PENH 1928

1. SUMMARY. KC 107MM ROCKETS HIT A LARGE PHNOM PENH HOSPITAL ON FEB 1. THE DAMAGE FROM THE JAN. 31 ROCKET ATTACKS AGAINST POCHENTONG AIRFIELD WAS SOMEWHAT GREATER THAN EARLIER REPORTS INDICATED. THERE HAS BEEN AN INCREASE IN KC ACTIVITY NORTH-EAST OF THE CITY, AND FANK DEFENDERS AT A PROVINCIAL CAPITAL IN SOUTHWESTERN CAMBODIA REPORTEDLY INFLECTED NEAVY CASUALTIES ON THE KC. END SUMMARY

2. EARLY FEB. 1, THE KC FIRED TWO ROCKETS AT PHNOM PENH WHICH STRUCK A LARGE HOSPITAL IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE CITY. ONE CIVILIAN IS REPORTED KILLED AND SEVENTEEN WOUNDED. THE HOSPITAL IS A WELL-KNOWN PHNOM PENH LANDMARK. ITS PATIENTS ARE MOSTLY CIVILIANS BUT THERE ARE SOME MILITARY AS WELL. (IF THE PRESS WERE SO INCLINED, THIS INCIDENT COULD BE USED AS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE RANDOM
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CRUELTY OF KC ROCKET ATTACKS.) THIRTEEN MORE CASUALTIES

WERE REPORTED FROM 107MM ROCKETS LANDING ON A
PAGODA AND A MILITARY DEPENDENT'S CAMP.

3. LATER REPORTS ON THE JAN. 31 KC ROCKET ATTACKS
AGAINST POCHENTONG (REFTEL) INDICATE THAT ONE T-28
BOMBER-FIGHTER WAS DESTROYED, WHILE TWO OTHER T-28S,
THREE HELICOPTERS AND TWO TRUCKS WERE DAMAGED. CASUALTIES
ARE NOW LISTED AS TWO KILLED AND FOURTEEN WOUNDED.

4. THE LEVEL OF KC ACTIVITY NORTHEAST OF THE CITY IN
THE AREA BETWEEN THE TONLE SAP AND UPPER MEKONG RIVERS
HAS PICKED UP, WITH ATTACKS BY FIRE AND GROUND PROBES
DIRECTED AGAINST MOST FANK POSITIONS. THUS FAR, HOW-
EVER, FRIENDLY CASUALTIES HAVE BEEN LIGHT AND THE
POSITIONS ARE HOLDING. AT KAMPOT, IN SOUTHWESTERN
CAMBODIA, FANK DEFENDERS CONDUCTED A CLEARING OPERA-
TION, REPORTEDLY KILLING FIFTY ENEMY SOLDIERS. THE SITUATION,
HOWEVER, REMAINS PRECARIOUS.

5. ANOTHER KC 107MM ROCKET LANDED NEAR THE FRENCH
CALMETTE HOSPITAL MID-AFTERNOON FEB. 1,
CAUSING NO DAMAGE.
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Message Attributes

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